

FISH & WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Meeting Date: August 6, 2015

Agenda Item: Selection of Organizations to Auction 2016 Moose, Sheep, Goat, Deer & Elk Licenses

Division: Finance Division

Action Needed: Final

Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 30 minutes

Background

ARM 12.3.131 & 12.3.132 establish the criteria and process for selecting conservation organizations to conduct the moose, sheep, goat, mule deer and elk license auctions/lotteries. FWP solicited proposals to conduct the auctions/lotteries. The Commission decides which organization is awarded the licenses for distribution through auction or lottery.

The 2015 species auction licenses were awarded to:

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| • Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation | Elk |
| • Mule Deer Foundation | Mule Deer |
| • Wild Sheep Foundation | Bighorn Sheep |
| • Safari Club International Great Falls | Mountain Goat |
| • Montana Ducks Unlimited | Moose |

All licenses were auctioned at fund raising events.

Public Involvement Process and Results

A press release and notice on the FWP website for solicitation of interested organizations were completed this year. A letter of solicitation was sent to cooperators that have expressed interest.

Responding proposals for 2016 licenses came from:

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|---|-------------------------|
| • Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation | Elk and Moose |
| • Mule Deer Foundation | Mule Deer |
| • Wild Sheep Foundation | Bighorn Sheep |
| • Safari Club International Great Falls | Mountain Goat |
| • Montana Ducks Unlimited | Moose |
| • Grand Slam Club/Orvis | Moose and Mountain Goat |

Alternatives and Analysis

This format has been successful and FWP has not used other alternatives. Interest in obtaining and aggressively auctioning these licenses has remained high, especially among the responding conservation organizations. Further, many of these conservation organizations have effectively and significantly partnered with FWP on other conservation and management efforts.

Agency Recommendation & Rationale

FWP typically does not make a specific recommendation to the Commission in terms of which organization should be awarded which license. As requested by the Commission, FWP merely passes along the proposals submitted.

Proposed Motion:

I move the Commission approve (organization name) to be awarded the 2016 (species name) auction license.